

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments set forth above and the remarks below.

Claims 1, 3 - 5, and 11 - 25 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 2 and 6 were previously cancelled, and Claims 7- 10 were previously withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3 - 5, 6 - 10, 18 - 19, and 21 are cancelled herein.

Claims 11, 17, 20, and 22 - 23 have been amended.

Claim 14 has been amended to fix a minor typographical error in the term “bonded.”

Information Disclosure Statements submitted November 13, 2008 and November 26, 2008

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has initialed the references cited in the IDS Form SB08 submitted November 13, 2008, and November 26, 2008, indicating that the considered references will be included on the face of any patent issuing from the present application.

Acknowledgment of claim to priority

Applicants note with appreciation that acknowledgement is made to claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and that a certified copy of the priority document has been received.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has objected to Claim 21 and 22 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner states that Claim 21 and 22 “structurally define the pincette apparatus with limitations that are not suggested in any of the prior art disclosures.”

Claim 21 has been cancelled and Applicants have amended Claim 11 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 21 as well as the subject matter of intervening Claim 18 and 19. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 11 is now allowable. As the remaining claims all

depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 11, the Applicants submit that all claims in the case are allowable.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to informalities of Claim 1. Claim 1 has been cancelled and therefore the Applicants request withdrawal of the objection.

The Prior Art Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected to Claim 17 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 17 has been amended to recite “the probe fixing unit supporting member.” Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection to Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 1 and 3 - 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,811,751 to Leong et al (hereinafter, “Leong”) in view U.S. Pat. No. 6,163,010 to Kobsa (hereinafter, “Kobsa”) and U.S. Pat. No. 4,475,681 to Ingle (hereinafter, “Ingle”). Claim 1 and 3 - 5 have been cancelled rendering the rejections moot.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 11 - 20 and 23 - 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,811,751 to Leong in view Kobsa , Ingle, and U.S. Pat. No. 3,383,491 to Mucheryan (hereinafter, “Mucheryan”).

Claim 11 has been amended to recite “an apparatus for positioning and bonding probes to a substrate of a probe card, comprising: a stage unit on a working table, the stage unit being movable in three dimensions and supporting the substrate; a microscope coupled to a first guide member positioned at a first portion of the working table and placed above the stage unit; a probe fixing unit mounting on a supporting member in such a configuration that the probe fixing unit moves on the supporting member vertically to the working table, an end portion of the probe fixing unit to which a probe is fixed being interposed between the microscope and the stage unit

so that the probe makes contact with the substrate at a connected portion thereof; and a light source unit movably coupled to a second guide member positioned at a second portion of the working table, a laser being emitted to the connection portion of the substrate from the light source unit, to thereby bonding the probe to the substrate at the connection portion of the substrate, wherein the probe fixing unit includes: a bracket moveably secured to the supporting member and including a pair of plates and a shaft interposed between the plates; a pincette moveably secured to the bracket and including a head portion secured to the bracket and a gripping portion opposite to the head portion to which the probe is fixed, the head portion of the pincette being secured to the shaft in a space between the plates; and a controller for controlling an open angle of the pincette, the controller positioned at a side of the pincette and applying a pressure to the pincette.

As discussed above with regard to the allowable subject matter, Applicants submit that Claim 11, and all dependent claims therefrom, are now allowable.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for withdrawing the prior art cited with regards to any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicants submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845, including but not limited to, any charges for extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Respectfully submitted,

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